

Governor,

**This info is for your call to Kevin Richardson, business editor of The Clarion-Ledger. His number is [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Thanks.**

Buddy

General points

These projects are proof that companies around the world know the quality of the workforce in Mississippi and want to be here.

Diversification is key, especially in a troubled national economy.

Highly specialized businesses tend to need higher-skilled workers who make higher wages.

Momentum Mississippi has provided flexible support for existing companies to expand and for new companies to join the Mississippi lineup.

We also have a great cooperation between government leaders, economic developers and our utilities, all of which must work in sync for the project to be successful.

GE Aviation Batesville

300,000-square-foot facility that will produce advanced composite engine components, which are unique in the aviation industry. GE Aviation, a General Electric Company business unit and world-leading producer of jet engines, employs more than 30 people in the new Batesville facility, with projections of 200.

The facility will produce two composite parts for GE's new and popular GEnx jet engine: fan platforms (installed between the engine's front fan blades) and the fan case assembly, a large circular structure that encases the front fan. The fan platforms and fan case are made of carbon fiber and epoxy resin composite material.

The GEnx engine, which will power the Boeing 787 and 747-8 aircraft, is the world's only jet engine with composite fan blades, composite fan platforms, and a composite fan case.

Governor Barbour quote: "Today we realize the tremendous promise offered by this outstanding project since the initial announcement two years ago that it would be built in our state," Governor Barbour said. "Now, skilled Mississippi workers are participating in some of the world's most sophisticated manufacturing processes, holding good-paying jobs with a world-class company in an exciting growth business.

Port of Gulfport Chiquita Gulfport

Chiquita Fresh North America (Chiquita) and the Mississippi State Port Authority at Gulfport have put the finishing touches on a new lease that will extend the partnership of the two organizations through the year 2019. The Mississippi State Port Authority has approved a \$570 million recovery and expansion project.

Governor Barbour quote: "Since the early days after Hurricane Katrina our outstanding partners at Chiquita said they would continue to be an important part of economic development in Mississippi. Today that promise has become a reality," Governor Haley Barbour said. "It's fitting that Chiquita will become the first corporate tenant under the Port of Gulfport's new master plan, which is a visionary plan that will help the Port achieve its full potential."

Headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio, Chiquita Brands International has operations on six continents. The state-of-the-art facility at Gulfport will handle more than 750 in-and-out containers for Chiquita per week, and accommodate future growth.

Chiquita currently occupies nearly 25 acres at the Port of Gulfport and is responsible for 52 ship calls per year there. That kind of commitment has helped the Port become the third busiest container port in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico.

A recent economic impact study by John A. Martin and Associates noted that service through the Port of Gulfport by Chiquita contributes greatly to more than 2,000 direct maritime jobs, and generates over \$13 million in state and local taxes.

MARS/Uncle Ben's Greenville

The State of Mississippi will contribute \$3 million toward Mars' expansion of its rice processing operations in Washington County.

The Mississippi Development Authority will loan \$2 million through its CAP program to assist in infrastructure and building needs for the new warehouse and copack facility.

Another \$1.8 million will be provided through a combination of grants from CDBG, Job Protection, DIP, ACE, and Delta Regional Authority programs.

Toyota Tsusho Blue Springs

Company will build two plants, at least \$70 million investment; expected 70 jobs; other details to be announced by the end of this year.

Sixth supplier in Mississippi for Toyota Motor Manufacturing Mississippi for the Prius vehicle.

Joint venture steel processing facility on the Toyota site; a second joint venture will construct another plant across U.S. Highway 78 to provide tire and wheel assembly.

Toyota Tsusho America is a wholly owned subsidiary of Toyota Tsusho Corp. based in Nagoya, Japan. Toyota Tsusho Corp. has global sales of \$70 billion in diverse business fields such as metals, machinery, energy, chemicals and foodstuffs. Operations are maintained in over 50 countries around the world.

Gulf LNG Pascagoula

Gulf LNG and its partners – Crest Investment Company, Sonangol Natural Gas, and El Paso Corporation – are constructing a \$1.1 billion facility, which will provide significant resources to meet our nation's growing energy needs.

More than 1,500 workers will be needed to build this terminal. Once its open for business in 2011, 50 to 60 good paying jobs will remain.

The location of this facility will help attract attention from other corporations, which want locations near a steady supply of clean, efficient energy.

Thanks to projects like Gulf LNG, Mississippi is emerging as a leader in utilizing the state's abundant resources and developing alternative, affordable, and sustainable sources of energy.

To date, approximately \$10.5 billion in projects have been announced, involving biofuels, liquefied natural gas, clean coal and coal to liquid, and nuclear power.

In total, the state is actively pursuing and negotiating additional energy-related projects valued at more than \$26.3 billion.

Our state is perfectly situated to be a key player in the U.S. energy market. This terminal is a vital asset to boost our role in creating alternatives to foreign oil.

Steel Development Company Amory

\$175 million private investment in Monroe County.

The state will invest about \$1 million; we like for the companies to have more “skin in the game” than the state.

A 100,000-square-foot facility that will produce rebar from recycled steel.

That rebar will not only help rebuild strong buildings and roads on our Gulf Coast This plant will support economic development in other parts of Mississippi and the South.

The steel mill will consume about 330,000 tons of scrap steel a year, converting it into 300,000 tons of rebar.

100 jobs with good salaries – an average \$50,000 a year.